IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v. :

CRIMINAL NO. 25-CR-148

GONZALO HERNANDEZ-ROQUE

GUILTY PLEA AGREEMENT

Under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the government, the defendant, and the defendant's counsel enter into the following guilty plea agreement. Any reference to the United States or the government in this agreement shall mean the Office of the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

- 1. The defendant agrees to plead guilty to Count One of the Indictment charging him with reentry after deportation, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1326(a), arising from his illegal reentry into the United States and being encountered on March 17, 2025 after being previously removed on July 7, 2016. The defendant further acknowledges his waver of rights, as set forth in the attachment to this agreement.
 - 2. At the time of sentencing, the government will:
- a. Make a sentencing recommendation of the low end of the applicable Sentencing Guidelines range.
- b. Comment on the evidence and circumstances of the case; bring to the Court's attention all facts relevant to sentencing including evidence relating to dismissed counts, if any, and to the character and any criminal conduct of the defendant; address the Court regarding the nature and seriousness of the offense; respond factually to questions raised by the

Court; correct factual inaccuracies in the presentence report or sentencing record; and rebut any statement of facts made by or on behalf of the defendant at sentencing.

- c. Nothing in this agreement shall limit the government in its comments in, and responses to, any post-sentencing matters.
- The defendant understands, agrees, and has had explained to him by counsel that the Court may impose the following total statutory maximum sentence: Count One, illegal reentry, 2 years' imprisonment, a one-year period of supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment. As described more fully below, the defendant understands that his guilty plea will likely result in his being removed from the United States, denied citizenship, and denied admission to the United States in the future.
- 4. The defendant further understands that supervised release may be revoked if its terms and conditions are violated. When supervised release is revoked, the original term of imprisonment may be increased by up to 1 year on Count One. Thus, a violation of supervised release increases the possible period of incarceration and makes it possible that the defendant will have to serve the original sentence, plus a substantial additional period, without credit for time already spent on supervised release.
- 5. The defendant agrees to pay the special victims/witness assessment in the amount of \$100 before at such time as directed by the Court.
- 6. The defendant may not withdraw his plea because the Court declines to follow any recommendation, motion, or stipulation by the parties to this agreement. No one has promised or guaranteed to the defendant what sentence the Court will impose.

- 7. The defendant joins in the Motion requesting that the Court order the United States Probation Office to prepare a Pre-plea Presentence Report (PSR with a Modified Part C) in place of a full investigation and report.
- 8. Pursuant to USSG § 6B1.4, the parties enter into the following stipulations under the Sentencing Guidelines Manual. It is understood and agreed that: (1) the parties are free to argue (except as stated below) the applicability of any other provision of the Sentencing Guidelines, including offense conduct, offense characteristics, criminal history, adjustments, and departures; (2) these stipulations are not binding upon either the Probation Office or the Court; and (3) the Court may make factual and legal determinations that differ from these stipulations and that may result in an increase or decrease in the Sentencing Guidelines range and the sentence that may be imposed:
- a. The parties agree and stipulate that, as of the date of this agreement, the defendant has demonstrated acceptance of responsibility for his offense, making the defendant eligible for a 2-level downward adjustment under USSG § 3E1.1(a).
- 9. The defendant, who is not a citizen of the United States, understands that his guilty plea in this case will result in his being subject to immigration proceedings, and will likely result in him being removed from the United States, denied citizenship, and denied admission to the United States in the future. The defendant has discussed with his attorney the immigration consequences of his guilty plea. The defendant understands that the immigration consequences of this plea will be determined in a separate proceeding before the immigration authorities, and that no one, including his attorney or the district court, can predict to a certainty the effect of his conviction on his immigration status. The defendant nevertheless affirms that he wants to plead guilty regardless of any immigration consequences of his plea, even if the result is his removal

from the United States. Therefore, the defendant waives any and all challenges to his guilty plea and to his sentence based on any immigration consequences, and agrees not to seek to withdraw his guilty plea, or to file a direct appeal or any kind of collateral attack challenging his/her guilty plea, conviction, or sentence, based on any immigration consequences of his guilty plea.

- If the defendant commits any federal, state, or local crime between the date of this 10. agreement and his sentencing, or otherwise violates any other provision of this agreement, the government may declare a breach of the agreement, and may at its option: (a) prosecute the defendant for any federal crime including, but not limited to, perjury, obstruction of justice, and the substantive offenses arising from this investigation, based on and using any information provided by the defendant during the investigation and prosecution of the criminal case; (b) upon government motion, reinstate and try the defendant on any counts which were to be, or which had been, dismissed on the basis of this agreement; (c) be relieved of any obligations under this agreement regarding recommendations as to sentence; and (d) be relieved of any stipulations under the Sentencing Guidelines. Moreover, the defendant's previously entered guilty plea will stand and cannot be withdrawn by him. The decision shall be in the sole discretion of the government both whether to declare a breach, and regarding the remedy or remedies to seek. The defendant understands and agrees that the fact that the government has not asserted a breach of this agreement or enforced a remedy under this agreement will not bar the government from raising that breach or enforcing a remedy at a later time.
- 11. In exchange for the promises made by the government in entering this plea agreement, the defendant voluntarily and expressly waives all rights to file any appeal, any collateral attack, or any other writ or motion that challenges the defendant's conviction, sentence, or any other matter relating to this prosecution, whether such an appeal, collateral attack, or other

writ or motion arises under 18 U.S.C. § 3742, 28 U.S.C. § 1291, 28 U.S.C. § 2255, or any other provision of law. As part of this knowing and voluntary waiver of the right to challenge the conviction and sentence, the defendant expressly waives the right to raise on appeal or on collateral review any argument that (1) the statute to which the defendant is pleading guilty is unconstitutional and (2) the admitted conduct does not fall within the scope of the statute.

- a. Notwithstanding the waiver provision above, if the government appeals from the sentence, then the defendant may file a direct appeal of his sentence.
- b. If the government does not appeal, then notwithstanding the waiver provision set forth in this paragraph, the defendant may file a direct appeal or petition for collateral relief but may raise only a claim, if otherwise permitted by law in such a proceeding:
 - i. that the defendant's sentence on any count of conviction exceeds
 the statutory maximum for that count as set forth in paragraph 3
 above;
 - ii. challenging a decision by the sentencing judge to impose an "upward departure" pursuant to the Sentencing Guidelines;
 - iii. challenging a decision by the sentencing judge to impose an "upward variance" above the final Sentencing Guideline range determined by the Court; and
 - iv. that an attorney who represented the defendant during the course of this criminal case provided constitutionally ineffective assistance of counsel.

If the defendant does appeal or seek collateral relief pursuant to this subparagraph (b), no issue may be presented by the defendant in such a proceeding other than those described in this subparagraph (b).

- 12. The defendant acknowledges that pursuing an appeal or any collateral attack waived in the preceding paragraph may constitute a breach of this plea agreement. The government recognizes that the mere filing of a notice of appeal is not a breach of the plea agreement. The government may declare a breach only after the defendant or his counsel thereafter states, either orally or in writing, a determination to proceed with an appeal or collateral attack raising an issue the government deems barred by the waiver. The parties acknowledge that the pursuit of an appeal constitutes a breach only if a court determines that the appeal does not present an issue that a judge may reasonably conclude is permitted by an exception to the waiver stated in the preceding paragraph or constitutes a "miscarriage of justice" as that term is defined in applicable law.
- 13. The defendant waives all rights, whether asserted directly or by a representative, to request or receive from any department or agency of the United States any records pertaining to the investigation or prosecution of this case, including without limitation any records that may be sought under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, or the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a.
- 14. The defendant is satisfied with the legal representation provided by the defendant's lawyer; the defendant and this lawyer have fully discussed this plea agreement; and the defendant is agreeing to plead guilty because the defendant admits that he is guilty.

15. It is agreed that the parties' guilty plea agreement contains no additional promises, agreements, or understandings other than those set forth in this written guilty plea agreement, and that no additional promises, agreements, or understandings will be entered into unless in writing and signed by all parties.

DAVID METCALF United States Attorney

GONŽALO HERNANDEZ-ROQUE

Defendant

SALVATORE L. ASTOLFI

Acting Chief, Criminal Division Assistant United States Attorney

NANCY MACEOIN

Counsel for the Defendant

KOBERT W/SCHOPF

Assistant United States Attorney

(A coursel)

Attachment

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GONZALO HERNANDEZ-ROQUE

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RIGHTS

I hereby acknowledge that I have certain rights that I will be giving up by pleading guilty.

- 1. I understand that I do not have to plead guilty.
- 2. I may plead not guilty and insist upon a trial.
- 3. At that trial, I understand
- a. that I would have the right to be tried by a jury that would be selected from the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and that along with my attorney, I would have the right to participate in the selection of that jury;
- b. that the jury could only convict me if all 12 jurors agreed that they were convinced of my guilt beyond a reasonable doubt;
- c. that the government would have the burden of proving my guilt beyond a reasonable doubt and that I would not have to prove anything;
- d. that I would be presumed innocent unless and until such time as the jury was convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the government had proven that I was guilty;
- e. that I would have the right to be represented by a lawyer at this trial and at any appeal following the trial, and that if I could not afford to hire a lawyer, the court would appoint one for me free of charge;
- f. that through my lawyer I would have the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against me;

that I could testify in my own defense if I wanted to and I could subpoena witnesses to testify in my defense if I wanted to; and that I would not have to testify or otherwise present any defense if I did not h. want to and that if I did not present any evidence, the jury could not hold that against me. I understand that if I plead guilty, there will be no trial and I would be giving up all 4. of the rights listed above. I understand that if I decide to enter a plea of guilty, the judge will ask me 5. questions under oath and that if I lie in answering those questions, I could be prosecuted for the crime of perjury, that is, for lying under oath. I understand that if I plead guilty, I have given up my right to appeal, except as set forth in the appellate waiver provisions of my plea agreement. Understanding that I have all these rights and that by pleading guilty I am giving 7. them up, I still wish to plead guilty. I acknowledge that no one has promised me what sentence the Court will impose. I 8. am aware and have discussed with my attorney that, at sentencing, the Court will calculate the Sentencing Guidelines range (including whether any departures apply), and then, in determining my sentence, will consider the Guideline range and all relevant policy statements in the Sentencing Guidelines, along with other sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), including (1) the nature and circumstances of the offense and my personal history and characteristics; (2) the need for the sentence imposed-- (A) to reflect the seriousness of the offense, to promote respect for the law, and to provide just punishment for the offense; (B) to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct; (C) to protect the public from further crimes of the defendant; and (D) to provide the defendant with needed educational or vocational training, medical care, or other correctional treatment in the most effective manner; (3) the kinds of sentences available; (4) the need to avoid unwarranted sentence disparities among defendants with similar records who have been found guilty of similar conduct; and - 2 -

(5) the need to provide restitution to any victims of the offense.

GONZALO HERNANDEZ-ROQUE

Defendant

NANCY MACEOIN

Counsel for the Defendant

Dated.